

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

SJR 710

March 30, 2012

SUMMARY OF BILL: Proposes amending Article VI, Section 3 of the Tennessee Constitution to require each judge of the Supreme Court or any intermediate appellate court to be initially selected via merit-based gubernatorial appointment from a panel of qualified candidates submitted by a nominating commission; be legislatively confirmed; and, thereafter, contingent upon a satisfactory job performance evaluation, be subject to retention election by the qualified voters of the state. Resolves that this amendment be referred to the 108th General Assembly and that this resolution be published in compliance with Article XI, Section 3 of the Tennessee Constitution.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$18,000/One-Time

Assumptions:

- A one-time cost of \$18,000 to the Secretary of State to print notice of the proposed amendment in statutorily designated newspapers as required by this resolution.
- According to the Secretary of State, the average statewide cost to publish the last three constitutional amendments was \$17,700.
- Because Article XI, Section 3 of the Constitution requires publication of the resolution before the next legislative election, this publication would occur in the spring of 2012.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/rct